

L. Leesman

Guildford Rural District



ANNUAL REPORT

— OF THE —

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year

1955

Together with the Annual Report
of the Sanitary Inspector

67341



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Guildford Rural District Council

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

*J. E. HAINE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

*MARGARET A. POLLOCK, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Visiting Nurse:

*Mrs. E. M. E. LYDDIARD, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

P. MEDDOWS TAYLOR, M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I. Meat and Other Foods Inspection.

Assistant Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Officer:

E. M. ORGAN, M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I. Meat and Other Foods Inspection.

Housing Inspector:

K. G. FREEMAN, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

R. B. BROWN, M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I. Meat and Other Foods Inspection.

J. H. MEURICE, M.S.I.A. (appointed 1/2/55).

Cleansing Inspector:

A. H. SMITH, M.I.W.H.S.

Assistant Rodent Officer:

C. E. BLANDFORD.

Health Department: Clerical Staff:

*Chief Clerk: C. B. STUART.

*N. C. BELLAMY.

*Miss D. L. MONK.

*Miss M. H. JEFFERSON.

Sanitary Inspector's Department:

W. F. A. JOHNSTONE.

Mrs. D. S. PATRICK.

Mrs. E. D. RUSSELL (resigned).

Mrs. M. K. ROGERS.

R. D. U. GRAHAM (to H.M. Forces 4/8/55).

Mrs. B. L. WATTS (appointed 28/11/55).

* Also acts in similar capacity for the Hambledon Rural and Haslemere Urban Districts.

Public Health Department,
Millmead House,
Guildford.
July, 1956.

To the Chairman and Members of the Guildford Rural
District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health
of the District for the year 1955.

The population shows an increase of 410 on the previous year, although the natural increase due to excess of birth over deaths is only 300. The number of births during the year, 758, shows a considerable increase over the 660 for 1954. The actual Birth Rate was 15.97 per 1,000 and, after correction by the Registrar-General's Comparability Factor, was 17.57. This is very high compared with the figure for England and Wales of 15.0 per 1,000. On the other hand, the corrected Death Rate is very much lower than for England and Wales, being 9.17 per 1,000, as compared with the national figure of 11.7. By a coincidence, the number of deaths from heart and circulatory diseases—the largest cause of death—was the same as in 1954, i.e., 161. Cancer, the next largest single cause, caused only two less deaths than in the previous year, there being 71 instead of 73. Pneumonia accounted for the rather unusually high number of 24 deaths, compared with 14 in 1954.

This was an epidemic year for measles, which accounted almost entirely for the high number of infectious disease cases notified. The 12 cases of poliomyelitis included 1 death. Although the number of cases of this disease is high compared with the previous year's 2 cases, the figure is really quite average, and there was never at any time a suggestion of an epidemic.

There is now, of course, less strain on housing, and the Council's programme is lower. On the other hand, it has been possible to implement some of our long-desired sewerage schemes, notably in the Ash area and in the Tillingbourne Valley. The pressure on the Council's cesspool emptying service has become very great, and a review of the situation will be necessary in the near future.

I am grateful for the continued cordial relations with the Council and the members of the Council's staff, and for much friendly co-operation and assistance. I take the opportunity also of thanking my own staff for their continued good work.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

J. E. HAINE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

SUMMARY

	1955	1954
Area in Acres	59,644	59,644
Estimated resident population in July (estimate supplied by Registrar-General)* ...	47,450	47,040
Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books (at 1st April following year) ...	14,110	13,336
Rateable Value (at 1st April following year) ...	£681,896	£396,341
A sum represented by a Penny Rate (actual) ...	£1,627	£1,579
Number of Births (legitimate and illegitimate) ...	758	660
Birth-Rate (actual) per 1,000 of the population ...	15.97	14.03
Birth-Rate (after correction by the Register-General's Comparability Factor)	17.57	15.43
Number of Still Births	8	16
Number of Deaths	458	444
Death-Rate (actual) per 1,000 of the population ...	9.65	9.44
Death-Rate (after correction by the Register-General's Comparability Factor)	9.17	8.97
Natural increase of population during year by excess of births over deaths	300	216
Number of Deaths of Infants (under the age of one year)	22	18
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births	29.02	27.27
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth	Nil	Nil
Death-Rate from Influenza per 1,000 of the population	0.04	0.11
Death-Rate from Pneumonia (all forms) per 1,000 of the population	0.50	0.30
Death-Rate from Bronchitis per 1,000 of the population	0.29	0.36
Death-Rate from Measles per 1,000 of the population	0.00	0.00
Death-Rate from the seven principal zymotic diseases: Smallpox, Whooping-cough, Measles, Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea, Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever and "Fever" (Typhoid, Enteric and Typhus), per 1,000 of the population	0.13	0.13
Death-Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis per 1,000 of the population	0.10	0.11
Death-Rate from Cancer per 1,000 of the population	1.50	1.55
Death-Rate from Heart Disease per 1,000 of the population	3.40	2.85
Death-Rate from Nephritis and Nephrosis per 1,000 of the population	0.10	0.00

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

		Male	Female	Total
Live Births:				
Legitimate	... ... ... ...	395	324	719
Illegitimate	... ... ... ...	21	18	39
Birth-Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population)	... ... ... ...			15.97
1954	... ... ... ...			14.03
For the five years, 1950 to 1954	...			15.01
Still Births:				
Legitimate	... ... ... ...	2	6	8
Illegitimate	... ... ... ...	—	—	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total births	...			10.55
1954	... ... ... ...			24.24
Deaths (net)	... ... ... ...	243	215	458
1954	... ... ... ...	227	217	444
Death-Rate	... ... ... ...			9.65
Death-Rate, 1954	... ... ... ...			9.44
For the five years, 1950 to 1954	...			9.95
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Abortion	... ... ... ...			Nil
1954	... ... ... ...			Nil
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births				0.00
Deaths of Infants under one year of age		15	7	22
Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age		12	6	18
Death-Rate of Infants under one year of age:				
All infants per 1,000 live births	...			29.02
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	... ... ... ...			27.82
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	... ... ... ...			50.25

COMPARATIVE BIRTH AND DEATH-RATES

The following Table shows the birth and death-rates per 1,000 of the population for the District, and for England and Wales, for 1954 and 1955.

	Annual Rates per 1,000 of the Population				Infantile Mortality per 1,000 live births	Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth & Abortion per 1,000 total live & still births		
	Birth-Rate		Death-Rate			1955	1954	
	1955	1954	1955	1954		1955	1954	
Guildford								
R.D.—Crude	15. 7	14.03	9.65	9.44	29.02	27.27	0.00	
Comp.	17.57	15.43	9.17	8.97	—	—	—	
England and Wales	15.0	15.2	11.7	11.3	24.9	25.4	0.64	
							0.69	

TABLE II.—CAUSES OF DEATH (ALL AGES)
(Figures supplied by Registrar-General)

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	2	5
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	1	2	3
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	1	5
,, ,, lung, bronchus	10	3	13
,, ,, breast	—	10	10
,, ,, uterus	—	4	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	26	12	38
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1	1
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	23	40	63
Coronary disease, angina	63	30	93
Hypertension with heart disease	1	5	6
Other heart disease	24	38	62
Other circulatory disease	8	7	15
Influenza	2	—	2
Pneumonia	15	9	24
Bronchitis	9	5	14
Other disease of respiratory system	—	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1	4
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	1	5	6
Nephritis and nephrosis	4	1	5
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	1	3	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	27	22	49
Motor vehicle accidents	4	2	6
All other accidents	8	6	14
Suicide	3	1	4
Homicide and operations of war	1	2	3
Totals	243	215	458

GRAPH SHOWING BIRTH AND DEATH RATES PER 1,000
OF THE POPULATION

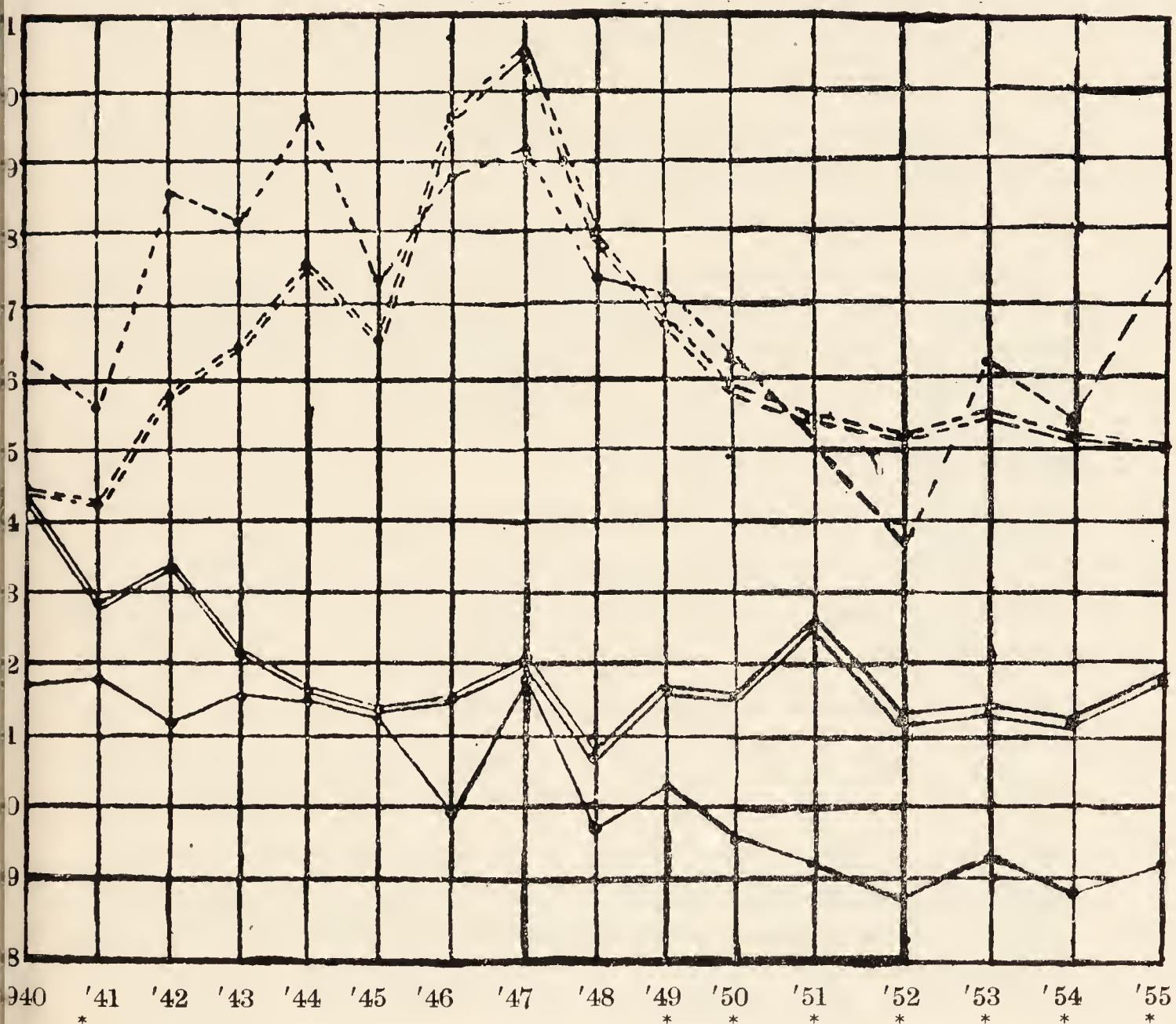
Guildford R.D.

England and
Wales.

Births ----- = = = = =

Deaths ----- ...

* = Guildford Rural District Death Rate
(and Birth Rate from 1951), after
correction by the Registrar-General's
Comparability Factor.



GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Pathological Examinations.—All laboratory examinations except in respect of water samples are carried out at the Guildford Public Health Laboratory.

The number of examinations carried out during the year in respect of the Guildford Rural District was:

Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	3
Scarlet Fever and Hæmolytic Streptococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	66
Examination of faeces for abnormal B.coli					164
Faeces (other organisms)	...	...	...	...	91
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	2

Water Analysis.—The Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, continue to undertake the examination (both chemical and bacteriological) of water samples. 135 samples were examined during 1955.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Following are particulars of the ambulance services operating in the District:

(i) Ambulances available for the conveyance of cases of Infectious Disease:

Name of Authority	No. of Ambulances	Address of Ambulance Station	Telephone Number
Farnham Group Hospital Management Committee	As required	Carried out by Farnham Ambulance Station, 50, West Street, Farnham.	Farnham 6749
Ottershaw Isolation Hospital		All Ambulances obtained from Woking Ambulance Station.	

(ii) Ambulances available for accident and sickness cases:

Responsible Authority	No. of Ambulances	Address of Ambulance Station	Telephone Number
County Ambulance Service: Guildford Ambulance Station	6 and 2 sitting case cars	Woodbridge Road, Guildford.	Guildford 66334
Sub-Stations at: Godalming	2	Church Street, Godalming.	Godalming 689
Ash Vale	1 and 1 sitting case car	Ash Vale Station.	Ash Vale 2366
Farnham Ambulance Station	2 and 2 sitting case cars	50, West Street, Farnham.	Farnham 6749
Leatherhead Ambulance Station	1 and 1 sitting case car	Council Offices, Leatherhead.	L'head 2373 (Emergency)
Dorking Ambulance Station	3	West Street, Dorking.	Horsley 62 Smallfield 271 (Emergency)
ALDERSHOT BOROUGH COUNCIL	3 and 1 sitting case car	Laburnum Road, Aldershot.	Horsley 62 Aldershot 2244

NURSING IN THE HOME.

Midwives.—There are 14 Midwives practising in the Rural District supervised by the County Medical Officer of Health. They are distributed in the following parishes:

Albury —	Horsley, East —
Artington —	Horsley, West 1
Ash and Normandy... 3	Normandy and
Clandon, East —	Wanborough 1
Clandon, West 1	Ockham —
Compton 1	Pirbright —
Effingham —	Puttenham —

Ripley	...	...	...	—	Shalford	...	...	...	I
St. Martha	...	...	...	—	Shere	...	...	...	I
Seale	...	...	...	I	Tongham	...	...	...	I
Send	...	...	...	2	Wisley	...	...	...	—
Shackleford	...	...	...	I	Worplesdon	...	...	...	I

District Nurses.—District Nurses are available in every parish. This service is administered by the County Nursing Association, acting as agents for the Local Health Authority.

Health Visitors.—County Health Visitors visit homes under the School Medical and Child Welfare Services. There are 10 H.V.s distributed in the following districts: (a) Pirbright. (b) Send, Ripley, Wisley, Ockham, E. and W. Clandon, (c) Ash Green, Ash Wyke and Seale (excluding Tongham), Normandy, Wanborough. (d) Artington, Compton, Puttenham, Shackleford, Eashing, Wood St., Worplesdon. (e) Albury, Chilworth (St. Martha), Shalford, Shere and Gomshall, Peasmash. (f) Holmbury St. Mary and Abinger Hammer. (g) E. and W. Horsley, Effingham. (h) Tongham. (j) Ash Common, Ash Vale. (k) Peaslake and Farley Green.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—Centres within the District are set out in the table below:

Centre	Address	Days of Centre
Ash (Mytchett)	Keogh Bks., Mytchett	1st and 3rd Fridays
Ash ...	Health Centre, Shawfield Road, Ash	Every Thursday
Ash Vale ...	Gospel Hall, Ash Vale	2nd and 4th Mondays
Ash Wyke ...	The Village Hall, Normandy...	1st and 3rd Mondays
Chilworth ...	Village Hall, Chilworth	1st and 3rd Fridays
Effingham ...	Women's Institute, Effingham	1st and 3rd Tuesdays
Horsley, West	Village Hall, West Horsley ...	1st and 3rd Thursdays
Holmbury St. Mary ...	Holly Bush, Holmbury St. Mary	2nd and 4th Fridays
Peaslake ...	Old Schoolroom, Peaslake ...	2nd and 4th Mondays
Pirbright ...	Red Cross Hut	Every Tuesday
Ripley ...	British Legion Hall	2nd and 4th Thursdays
Send ...	Red Cross Hut, Sandy Lane ...	1st and 3rd Mondays
Shere ...	Memorial Hall, Shere	1st and 3rd Thursdays
Shalford ...	The Institute, off King's Road, Shalford	Every Wednesday
Tongham ...	Village Institute	2nd and 4th Thursdays
Wood Street ...	Church Hall, Wood Street ...	2nd and 4th Thursdays
Worplesdon ...	Memorial Hall, Perry Hill ...	2nd and 4th Wednesdays

Ante-Natal Clinics.—Clinics serving the District are held as follows:—

Ash	... ... ... ... ...	2nd and 4th Tuesdays, at 2 p.m.
Godalming	... ... ...	1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 9.30 a.m.
Farnham ("Brightwells")		Wednesdays at 2 p.m.
Woking Maternity Home, Heathside Road, Woking.		Every Friday at 10 a.m., 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 2 p.m., and 2nd Monday at 10 a.m.
St. Luke's Hospital, Guild- ford	... ... ... ...	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 1.30 p.m. Booking Clinic, Monday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Orthopædic Treatment.—In-patient treatment is given at the Royal Surrey County Hospital and at the Rowley Bristow Home at Pyrford.

Orthopædic Clinics for out-patient treatment are available at the Royal Surrey County Hospital on Tuesday afternoons at 1.30 p.m., and at the Rowley Bristow Home on Thursday mornings from 10.30 to 1 p.m.

Chest Clinic.—The Chest Clinic is at Tower House, Epsom Road, Guildford. Days and times for the attendance of the patients are as follows:

Mondays	... ... ... ...	1.10 to 3.50 p.m.
Wednesdays	... ... ... ...	1.10 to 3.50 p.m.
Fridays	... ... ... ...	9.10 to 11.50 a.m.
Refill Clinic	... ...	Every Thursday, 4.30 to 6 p.m.

Venereal Diseases Clinic.—A Clinic is held at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, four days weekly as follows:

Mondays (Females)	... ... ... ...	3-7 p.m.
Thursdays (Females)	... ... ... ...	9.30-11 a.m.
Tuesdays (Males)	... ... ... ...	5-7 p.m.
Fridays (Males)	... ... ... ...	5-7 p.m.

Birth Control.—The Birth Control Clinic at St. Luke's Hospital, Guildford, is held every Friday evening and is administered by a Voluntary Committee.

The Clinics mentioned above are all administered by and under the control of the Surrey County Council, except where otherwise stated.

Home Nursing and Home Help Service.—The scheme is operated by the County Council.

CARE OF THE AGED AND NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47.

It was not necessary to take any statutory action under this Section of the Act during 1956.

The problem of old people still increases. Their needs are many and diverse and, quite understandably, of course, most of them desire to stay in their own homes and retain their independence despite hardships. Many are not ill and have not seen a doctor for years, but are no longer able adequately to care for themselves, and trivial illness can completely incapacitate them. In our rural district many of them live alone and have greater difficulties to deal with than town dwellers. In addition to the common weaknesses of failing vision, hearing and activity, they are often dependent on oil lamps for lighting, coal fires for heating and cooking, have well-water supplies only (sometimes a considerable distance from the house) and, a major problem, are a great distance from shopping facilities.

The solution is undoubtedly to keep them at home with assistance from home visitors—in particular, a type of home help specially suitable for this sort of work is needed. Voluntary organisations such as the W.V.S. and the Red Cross can and do help these old folk in such ways as doing their shopping, giving them some interests such as handicrafts, etc., and in general keeping them in touch with the outside world.

On the grounds of humanity alone, support should be given to the desire of these old people to remain at home. Indeed, on economic grounds it is cheaper to spend five or six pounds per week in maintaining them in their homes than double that amount to keep them in institutions.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited the largest factory in our District for one week in May, and later spent one week each at Guildford, Godalming and Woking; each of these towns serves a large part of the Guildford Rural District.

HOSPITALS.

The hospitals serving the district are as follows:

General:

St. Luke's Hospital, 379 beds, of which at least 57 are maternity. Farnham Hospital, Hale Road, Farnham, 180 beds. Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, 232 beds (including 23 private beds).

Infectious Disease:

Ottershaw Isolation Hospital, 50 beds (24 Fever, 26 Chronic). Green Lane Hospital, Farnham, 68 beds (28 Fever, 40 Chronic).

BURIAL OF THE DEAD: SECTION 50, NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Under this Section, the local authority is responsible for securing the burial or cremation of the body of any person who has died, or has been found dead, in their area, where no suitable arrangements are made by any other person. During 1955, one case was so dealt with in this District.

TILLINGBOURNE VALLEY MOBILE PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICE.

The excellent work of this service has continued, and it has been possible to improve the equipment by the addition of a portable short-wave unit.

During 1955, 1,600 treatments were given, involving 6,650 miles of travelling. The number of different patients concerned was 174, of whom a considerable number were transferred to the Mobile Physiotherapy Service by the local hospitals.

This service is an important addition to facilities available for the aged, as a very large proportion of the work is for old people.

SPASTICS CLINIC.

A treatment centre for spastic children has been opened at the Memorial Hall, Worplesdon, under the auspices of the National Spastics Society. It is available for treatment every Monday, Tuesday and Friday.

MORTUARIES.

Negotiations for the use of the mortuary at Milford Chest Hospital for the reception of bodies from the Hambleton Rural District and part of the Guildford Rural District have now been completed, and the new arrangement came into effect on October 17th. The mortuary is excellently equipped for post-mortem work, and the action of the Godalming, Milford and Liphook Group Hospital Management Committee in permitting our use of it is highly appreciated. Five bodies from this District were sent there up to December 31st.

The other mortuaries serving the District are at Godalming, Woking and Farnham. The numbers of bodies removed thereto from this District in 1955 were:

Godalming	...	...	...	...	...	6
Woking	...	...	...	...	...	11
Farnham	...	...	...	...	...	7

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLIES.

Sampling of water supplies has been continued on the same lines as in recent years, quarterly samples being taken from green-sand sources and monthly from those with wells in the chalk strata.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Good progress has been made with main drainage schemes during 1955, and I am indebted to the Council's Engineer and Surveyor for the following brief details:

"The first phase of the **Ash Vale** main drainage scheme, comprising a sewage disposal works and two miles of trunk sewer, was completed early in the year at a cost of £130,000. The second phase, consisting of six miles of branch and lateral sewers, and embracing Stratford Road, Shawfields Road, Government Road and Station Road, commenced in October. The Contract Works are expected to last two years, and the estimated cost is £124,000.

"On completion of the two phases it is estimated that main drainage facilities will be available for 2,000 persons.

"The third, fourth and fifth phases of the **Tillingbourne Valley Scheme** have been in progress during the year, bringing main drainage facilities to the populated areas of Chilworth, Albury and further parts of Shere Parish. The cost of the three phases is estimated at £168,000, and on completion main drainage facilities will be available for, in addition, 2,100 persons.

"In October, the Council's contractors started work on a scheme for the main drainage of **Effingham**. The works comprise seven miles of sewer, together with two pumping stations, at an estimated cost of £124,000.

"The **Normandy, Worplesdon and Pirbright Scheme**, which is estimated to cost £542,930, has been approved in principle by the Ministry and the first stage of the sewage disposal works, constructed to the Council's design, at Hockford Farm, for use in the first instance by the Agricultural Research Institute at Pirbright, has been completed and brought into operation."

A special feature of the sewage from this Research Institute is that it contains the living virus of Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Since the virus will not be affected by the normal processes of sewage purification, special preliminary treatment of the sewage is necessary in order to destroy it. The virus can be destroyed by rendering the sewage alkaline. Sodium hydroxide is the alkali of choice, and a pH of over 11 is desirable for a sufficient period of time to guarantee penetration of tissues, albuminoid, colloidal and gelatinous matter in the sewage. This high alkalinity is subsequently neutralised by sulphuric acid before the sewage goes through the ordinary process of purification.

The pH of 11.00 proposed under the scheme is probably just sufficient if adequate time is allowed for contact, but it does not appear to leave much margin for error.

This problem of virus destruction in sewage does not appear to have been met with before at any sewage works, so that there is no experience to provide assistance in this case. The results of not destroying the virus completely obviously might be serious. Tests should be made from time to time, especially in the initial stages of operation of the plant. The aerating filters may also become less efficient more rapidly than usual due to precipitated sulphates.

Unfortunately this treatment, with its risks of excessive alkalinity or acidity, will almost certainly also destroy the bacteria necessary for the first stage of sewage purification, and this will be most apparent when the flow of ordinary sewage is too low to ensure sufficient dilution of the Institute's sewage. Obviously, therefore, the greater the flow of ordinary sewage the less the risk of fluctuations or of errors of neutralisation or lack of bacterial action.

Other areas of Worplesdon where the need for main drainage continues urgent are Frog Grove Lane, Liddington Hall Estate and Fairlands Estate. Drainage conditions have been very bad for many years, and a main drainage scheme is urgent. The additional sewage also will be helpful at the Hockford works described above.

PUBLIC SCAVENGING.

Disposal of refuse was continued at three sites—Shalford, Ash Vale and Shere—and some use was made of an additional tip at Clandon. Further details of the services are contained in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Two cases of infestation were reported during 1955, and necessary disinfection was carried out.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No case of pollution came to our notice during the year.

MOSQUITOES: Shalford and Bramley areas.

Complaints were received again this year of mosquitoes from the Godalming Sewage Farm. The Godalming Corporation's scheme for modernising these works is now proceeding, and when this is complete the mosquito menace should be greatly abated. There were also complaints of smell from the sewage farm, and this nuisance, too, should be largely eliminated when the new works are completed.

COMPLAINTS.

Gomshall Tanneries.—Complaints were received in the spring regarding the putrefaction of waste deposited on the tip, and on being approached the owners stated this was because of difficulty in obtaining the sawdust formerly used for covering. A definite public health nuisance existed, and statutory notice was served in June. The nuisance was abated by the provision of a substantial quantity of covering material, and a close watch was subsequently kept on the conditions there.

Nuisance from Cesspool Overflows.—At a boarding school for pre-school children there was a continuous nuisance from the summer of 1954 from the overflowing of cesspool contents into the lane nearby. The number of children resident there (18), and the consequent large amount of laundry, was responsible for this. Finally, statutory notice was served in July, resulting in abatement of the nuisance by the owner making arrangements for more frequent regular emptying by private contract. Up to the end of the year there had been no recurrence of nuisance.

Basingstoke Canal.—The question of nuisance from that part of the canal which is in the Guildford Rural District arose again during the late summer. Close observation of the canal was kept over a period of some weeks, and no public health nuisance was found.

HOUSING

Appended is a table showing the Council's Housing Programme as at December 31st, 1955, and a summary of housing production up to the same date.

The number of applicants on the Council's waiting list at the end of 1955 was 931, compared with 1,300 at the end of the previous year.

Following a review of the Council's housing policy it was decided to institute a differential rents scheme for tenants of Council houses. Details were still under consideration at the end of the year.

A new system of "pointing" in considering applications for rehousing allows for the allocation of additional points by the Medical Officer of Health if there are any special health grounds. The highest priority may be given on special medical recommendation.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

The caravan problem is not a temporary one associated only with post-war conditions. It has become and will continue a permanent feature of modern life. The need for strict control is thereby more than ever emphasised.

The following summary shows the number of licences issued during the last seven years:

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Licences granted to erect or station and use mov- able dwellings	16	34	29	31	14	15	9
Licences granted to use land as a site for movable dwellings	1	—	5	—	—	1	2

These figures, however, give no idea of the actual number of caravans in the District, the total being probably some 500. Many of these are on licensed sites or exempted from special control because of agricultural employment of the occupants.

The only real solution to the difficulties is the siting of all other caravans on sites provided and managed by the Council or maintained at an equivalent standard by private enterprise. This ideal is by no means unattainable, and there are already examples of really well managed sites in the District.

HOUSING PROGRAMME

The following table shows the Council's Housing Programme as at December 31st, 1955 (information supplied by Council's Engineer and Surveyor):

Parish	No. of Dwellings Ultimately to be erected	Total Immediate Programme	No. of Dwellings in course of erection	No. of Dwellings Completed
Artington	...	4	4	—
Albury	...	39	30	9
Ash and Normandy	...	442	68	374
Clandon (W)	...	101	33	68
Compton	...	74	43	31
Effingham	...	124	84	40
Horsley (E)	...	74	—	74
Horsley (W)	...	188	84	104
Pirbright	...	28	—	28
Puttenham	...	8	—	8
Ripley	...	119	—	119
Seale and Tongham	...	259	62	171
Send	...	96	—	96
Shackleford	...	50	22	28
Shalford	...	181	31	150
Shere	...	98	19	79
Worplesdon	...	202	40	162
Totals	...	2087	520	1541

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD MILK SUPPLIES.

The routine for quarterly sampling of milk supplies has been continued, and 202 samples were examined during 1955. In no case was tubercle infection found on biological examination, nor was there any evidence of milk-spread disease in humans during the year.

Tables summarising the results of analyses are appended, and further notes regarding milk supplies are contained in the annual report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

ICE CREAM.

The following table shows the number of samples of ice cream taken during the year, and their provisional grading. The grading, unfortunately, is no criterion, as even in the higher grades 1 and 2 many samples of a particular brand, on examination, showed the presence of faecal coli.

Total samples taken.	Provisional Grading.				Containing Faecal Coli
	Grade 1.	Grade 2.	Grade 3.	Grade 4.	
92	83	9	—	—	3 of 6 examined.

Reference was made in my Report for 1954 to this particular brand of ice cream on sale here but manufactured outside the district. Three out of six samples of this ice cream examined during the first quarter of the year were found to contain faecal coli, the tests being carried out by the Guildford Public Health Laboratory. This gave rise to some anxiety, as this position has remained unaltered since 1953, when this ice cream came under suspicion. Many of the strains were killed by pasteurisation, but many proved to be heat-resistant. The presence of these faecal organisms was indicative of infection of either the pasteurisation plant or the mix, and, although not necessarily harmful in themselves, they were indicative of human infection: at any time, therefore, such infection might be of a more serious nature. Great difficulty was experienced in dealing with the situation since the product was manufactured outside the district and was therefore beyond our control. The matter was referred to the Ministry of Health, and there was much subsequent correspondence. This Council pursued the matter vigorously in the hope of effecting some improvement, but the situation finally resolved itself by the ice cream ceasing to be on sale within our district.

FOOD UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

Details of food condemned as unfit for human consumption or sent into the district for animal feeding only are given in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

ANTHRAX.

One case of suspected anthrax was reported to us, but the notification was subsequently withdrawn.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

This Act is administered by the Surrey County Council, and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the following table, which shows the number of samples analysed, and action taken in respect of this District, during 1955.

Articles	Analysed			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	In-formal	Total	Formal	In-formal	Total
FOOD:						
Milk	151	—	151	4	—	4
Almond paste	1	—	1			
Biscuits	1	—	1			
Confectionery	—	1	1			
Gin	3	—	3			
Ice Cream	—	1	1			
Jelly	1	—	1			
Meat paste	2	—	2			
Rum	1	—	1			
Sausages	—	1	1			
Vinegar	2	—	2	1*	—	1
Whisky	2	—	2			
DRUGS:						
Kaolin mixture	1	2	3	—	1	1
* Legal proceedings were instituted against each of two partners who were convicted of selling vinegar not of the quality demanded.						
Totals	165	5	170	5	1	6

GUILDFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL—MILK SUPPLIES.

Year	Total No. of Samples Taken	No. Unsatisfactory	No. T.B. Positive	No. Cows Slaughtered	Licences to Sell Heat Treated Milk (Inc. Dealers)	Producers			Total
						Accredited	T.T.	Ordinary	
1937	147	18	—	—	—	69	5	71	145
1938	147	11	—	—	5	73	10	69	152
1939	93	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	142
1940	136	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	143
1941	134	28	3	1	—	—	—	—	146
1942	230	57	7	2	—	—	—	—	144
1943	187	29	6	1	11	60	20	57	137
1944	92	10	9	14	14	62	14	72	148
1945	53	7	Nil	Nil	7	61	15	71	147
1946	194	20	1	1	11	49	31	65	145
1947	187	22	1	1	17	43	29	65	137
1948	212	41	Nil	Nil	24	38	37	62	137
1949	356	51	1	26	26	35	43	68	146
1950	378	21	5	7	31	31	34	44	144
1951	261	21	4	1	1	Nil	Nil	51	144
1952	239	3	3	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	144
1953	199	2	2	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	144
1954	253	6	6	7	7	Nil	Nil	Nil	144
1955	202	7	7	7	7	Nil	Nil	Nil	144

Information not available

SHORT PARTICULARS OF MILK SAMPLING FOR THE YEARS 1948—1955
ANALYSIS RESULTS.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

GENERAL.

The number of cases notified was 740, compared with 161 in 1954, the difference being almost entirely due to the number of measles cases, 1955 being an epidemic year.

There were several more cases of poliomyelitis than in 1954. The cases were fairly evenly distributed both over the District and throughout the year, and at no time did there appear to be any particular focus of infection.

The following table shows the number of cases notified during the year.

Disease	1955	1954	1955 Increase + Decrease -
Food Poisoning	2	7	- 5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	1	- 1
Scarlet Fever	9	22	- 13
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	+ 1
Pneumonia	15	9	+ 6
Poliomyelitis	12	2	+ 10
Erysipelas	2	—	+ 2
Dysentery	16	4	+ 12
Measles	610	31	+ 579
Whooping Cough	73	85	- 12
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	740	161	+ 579

INFECTIOUS DISEASE—ADMISSION OF PATIENTS TO HOSPITAL.

There appears to be less pressure on the beds than formerly, and admissions can usually be arranged without much difficulty. Isolation hospitals accept cases on the request of the Medical Officer of Health or the private practitioner direct. It is quite helpful to be able to send in non-notifiable diseases such as chicken-pox, mumps or infantile gastro-enteritis, where the home conditions are unsatisfactory or where the mother goes out to work and there is no one to look after the patient. One feels that perhaps sometimes patients are admitted too easily without adequate check on the actual necessity for removal.

The facilities are appreciated, especially when dealing with nurseries and similar institutions. No isolation is possible in most of these, and cases of minor clinical importance or even healthy carriers must be taken to hospital. This applies, of course, particularly to the abnormal *B. coli* infections which have caused so much trouble in residential nurseries in recent years. Further comment on this infection will be found under the heading "Gastro-enteritis."

DIPHTHERIA.

For the fifth consecutive year no cases of this disease were reported.

In April, a direct contact from a boarding school outside the District came to visit her home address in our area. She and all other members of the family were swabbed, and all were negative.

Details of **Diphtheria Immunisation** are given on page 29.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Some severe cases of this disease occurred at Ash, amongst the "gipsy" families. They were visited, but could not be prevailed upon to accept immunisation. A very few families in this district of Ash persist in refusing protection against any disease.

Seventy-three cases of whooping cough were notified, 49 of these being in children under 5. One of these children, who developed the disease in February, was found to have received a course of Diph/Pertussis prophylactic in December, 1953. The disease was so greatly modified as to be almost unrecognisable. As the patient had been in close contact with recognised cases she was quarantined. It is stressed again that many modified cases of whooping cough following immunisation may not be recognised as such, and so such cases may possibly disseminate infection unwittingly. This is an added reason for early immunisation against whooping cough, preferably commencing at 4 months of age.

Details of Whooping Cough Immunisation are given on page 31.

GASTRO-ENTERITIS AND ABNORMAL *B. COLI* INFECTIONS.

In December, several children at a residential nursery developed diarrhoea. *B. coli* 0128 was isolated from a baby of 6 months. Three other children with marked symptoms had already started antibiotic treatment, and so no pathogens were found. Several other children suffered from vomiting. All the children in the nursery were treated with antibiotics, and there was no further spread.

Arising out of the great difficulties with gastro-enteritis—usually due to abnormal B. coli infections—in nurseries in this and my other two Districts, the Regional Hospital Board was again approached on the question of admission of such cases to suitable hospitals for treatment. I was subsequently informed that arrangements had been made whereby such cases could be admitted to St. Luke's Hospital, Guildford. These abnormal B. coli infections can cause very severe illness in babies under 12 months, and several deaths have occurred in the last year or two from this cause. Routine examination of stools from all children on admission to nurseries has continued.

POLIOMYELITIS.

Of the 9 paralytic cases notified, 2 were severe (one of generalised paralysis being fatal), 5 were of moderate severity, and the other 2 were slight. Apart from one showing involvement of the throat, palate and larynx, all were affected in the limbs. In three cases there seemed to be some association with unusual recent physical exertion.

There was no seasonal variation in the incidence of the disease, the cases being spread out over the year. Some anxiety was felt over the hospitalisation of cases, since it is now recognised that the majority of cases should go to hospital as early as possible since there is the ever-present danger of respiratory collapse, while the transport to hospital may itself adversely affect the patient in the critical stage of illness. It is an infectious disease, and therefore special difficulties arise as smaller hospitals do not have special facilities for dealing with respiratory cases, nor have they even resident medical staff. This is a difficulty which I have stressed over several years in the past.

I now understand that the Western Hospital, Fulham, and the Portsmouth Isolation Hospital have special ambulances and teams trained to administer mechanical artificial respiration during transport. The distances to these two hospitals are considerable, and would result in much delay in the arrival of the patient at the hospital. There is need for facilities of this type located centrally in Surrey, such as in Guildford.

Appended below is a brief table showing the number of cases of poliomyelitis notified in the District during the last nine years:

1947	...	23	1952	...	14
1948	...	3	1953	...	13
1949	...	6	1954	...	2
1950	...	9	1955	...	12
1951	...	2			

TYPHOID FEVER.

A suspected case of typhoid occurred at Effingham. All precautions were taken, and contacts checked. On the death of the patient in hospital, post-mortem examination revealed the cause of death to be acute ulcerative colitis.

Two contacts from a case in Sussex were visited. Bacteriological examination of specimens was negative, and so the contacts were released from observation.

DYSENTERY.

There were several small outbreaks of Sonne dysentery during the year. At Holmbury St. Mary School a number of cases were reported, the youngest age groups being most affected. Most of the cases were abrupt in onset, while all were feverish. One child passed a little blood. Six children resident in our district who were reported to be suffering were visited in their homes. Only two of them were proved to be Sonne dysentery, most other cases having recovered by the time we were called in. Investigations were made in conjunction with the Medical Officer of Health of the Dorking and Horley Rural District, in whose district some other affected children resided. No other developments or spread of the disease occurred.

In Ash, three cases of Sonne dysentery occurred in one family. The father, who was one of the patients, was a baker's roundsman, and had to be taken off this work; he subsequently obtained other employment.

A child admitted to a residential nursery was found on routine examination to be a carrier of Sonne dysentery. Eleven other children who had been in contact with him for three days after his admission were checked, and fortunately all were free from infection.

FOOD POISONING.

An outbreak of suspected food poisoning occurred at Ripley in May, involving 12 or more persons. Sufferers were visited and specimens obtained, but no pathogenic organisms were found.

Two other cases were notified. Both were confirmed by bacteriological examination, but in neither was it possible to ascertain the source of infection.

Following an epidemic of *Salmonella typhi-murium* infection at a Guildford Hospital in October, a two-weeks-old baby was discharged to a home address in our district suffering from a carrier condition. Despite several courses of treatment by antibiotics, the carrier condition persisted until March, 1956, without any apparent ill effects on the child's health. Careful watch was kept on the rest of the household.

MEASLES.

This was an epidemic year for measles, 610 cases being notified. The disease was mainly of a mild nature, and there were no deaths.

A number of cases occurred in a boarding school in February and March, and those whose clinical condition warranted it were removed to isolation hospital. There were no dangerous complications.

SCARLET FEVER AND HÆMOLYTIC STREPTOCOCCAL THROAT INFECTIONS.

A number of cases of H.S. throat infection occurred at a boarding school, coinciding with an outbreak of measles there, and some anxiety was felt about the general conditions at the school. All possible precautions, necessary swabbing and treatment, etc., eventually gained control of both outbreaks.

Six children attending Abinger Hammer School with home addresses in our district were reported in October to be suffering from sore throats. The homes were visited, and sufferers and contacts checked. No further spread of this infection occurred at the school.

HÆMOFFLER'S INFLUENZAL MENINGITIS.

This case came to our notice at the end of the year as a "meningitis." Laboratory investigation showed it not to be a notifiable disease, but the child was dangerously ill. Home contacts were given antibiotic treatment.

DEATHS OF OLD PEOPLE.

During the first quarter of the year the number of deaths of old people showed a remarkable increase, no doubt due to the severity of the weather. Out of a total of 74 deaths, 18 were directly due to pneumonia and bronchial diseases, almost all of these patients being between 60 and 96 years of age.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

School children.

As in previous years, only those children whose immunisation is complete and up to date are counted as "immunised"; 2 primary injections or a reimmunising dose within the preceding 5 years are necessary.

The percentage of children immunised in the schools is very satisfactory. The figures for the past 9 years are shown below:

1947	...	84.05	1952	...	90.35
1948	...	88.23	1953	...	89.53
1949	...	89.25	1954	...	90.44
1950	...	90.80	1955	...	89.37
1951	...	91.08			

Immunisation of Pre-School Children.

The percentages of children under 5 years of age immunised during the last 9 years are shown in the following table:

1947	...	38.25	1952	...	43.76
1948	...	39.00	1953	...	44.68
1949	...	45.07	1954	...	46.62
1950	...	49.05	1955	...	47.49
1951	...	41.23			

Home Visiting Scheme for Pre-School Children: Immunisation against Whooping Cough and Diphtheria, and Vaccination against Smallpox.—Many requests for immunisation under this scheme were received during the year from Health Visitors as well as from parents. Details of treatments against diphtheria and whooping cough given in the homes during 1955 are as follows:—

Diphtheria Immunisation.	Whooping Cough Immunisation.
First injections ... 28	First injections ... 26
Second „ „ 50	Second „ „ 35
	Third „ „ 40

Vaccinations against Smallpox

This makes a total of 179 treatments in the homes carried out by Dr. Pollock.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION.

Vaccination is offered to all children at the same time as diphtheria and whooping cough immunisation, and is performed also in the home if this is desired. The following table gives details of vaccinations carried out in the District during 1955:

Age at date of Vaccination	Number of Persons Vaccinated (or Re-vaccinated)						Total
	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over		
Number Vaccinated ...	396	15	28	4	17	460	
Number Re-Vaccinated	—	—	6	26	80	112	

All the above were carried out by general practitioners with the exception of 11 vaccinations carried out by this department and 178 reported from Welfare Centres.

No cases of illness or other complications arising out of vaccination were reported during the year.

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

This scheme has been in being for 3 years. The accompanying table sets out the number of children immunised in the district, in age groups, and the percentage immunised in each group during the last two years. It will be noted that the percentage of children immunised under 1 year of age has risen compared to the previous year. In this area the figure has not risen so appreciably as elsewhere, but the tendency is to accept whooping cough immunisation at the same time as diphtheria immunisation, and such tendency will increase each year.

Age group	Under 1	1 to 4	Total under 5	5 to 15
1955.				
No. immunised	208	243	451	29
Estimated Population ...	660	3,343	4,003	7,300
Percentage immunised ...	31.5	7.3	11.3	0.4
1954.				
No. immunised	167	200	367	77
Estimated population ...	709	3,259	3,968	7,215
Percentage immunised ...	23.5	6.1	9.2	1.06

In addition to the treatments given in the children's homes by Dr. Pollock, the following children were treated by private doctors and at Welfare Centres during 1955:

Private doctors.	Welfare Centres.
161	135

HEALTH DEPARTMENT VISITING NURSE.

Following are details of the work carried out by the Visiting Nurse in the Guildford Rural District:

Home Immunisation Visits	...	...	535
School Immunisation Visits	...	...	69
Scarlet Fever Visits	...	...	22
Tuberculosis Visits	...	...	83
Visits to Aged Persons	...	...	47
Vaccination Visits	...	...	19
Poliomyelitis Visits	...	...	43
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	113
Special Home Visits	...	...	139
Total ...	...	1,070	

IMMUNISATION STATE BY SCHOOLS, AS AT DECEMBER, 1955.

SCHOOLS	Children attending school.			Treatment carried out during 1955			Percentage of children immunised
	Total	No. Immunised	No. not immunised	1st Inj.	2nd Inj.	Re-imm.	
		1	1	1	1	1	
Albury C. of E. ...	79	73	6	—	—	—	92.40
Ash Common C. of E. ...	352	285	67	14	17	42	80.96
Ash Vale C.P. ...	246	198	48	15	7	20	80.49
Ash Walsh C. of E. ...	413	381	32	6	5	52	92.25
Ash Wyke C.P. ...	270	221	49	16	10	28	81.85
Ash Yeomans Bridge Sec. ...	609	568	41	8	4	137	93.27
Chilworth C. of E. ...	62	57	5	—	—	12	91.93
Compton C. of E. ...	58	58	—	—	—	—	100.00
East Clandon C. of E. ...	44	41	3	—	2	7	93.18
West Clandon C. of E. ...	75	70	5	—	3	7	93.33
Effingham Secondary ...	273	234	39	—	—	30	85.71
Effingham C.P. ...	168	137	31	4	5	15	81.55
Holmbury St. Mary C. of E. ...	36	33	3	1	—	4	91.67
East Horsley C. of E. ...	110	101	9	—	—	—	—
West Horsley C. of E. ...	131	120	11	3	2	2	16
Ockham C. of E. ...	42	33	9	1	2	6	91.60
Peaslake C. of E. ...	54	49	5	4	—	8	78.57
Perry Hill, Worplesdon ...	159	147	12	4	—	—	90.74
Pirbright C.P. ...	156	136	20	3	3	23	92.45
Puttenham C. of E. ...	72	62	10	2	2	6	87.18
Ripley C. of E. ...	205	185	20	13	4	31	86.11
Seale C. of E. ...	55	53	2	2	2	11	90.24
Send C. of E. ...	222	202	20	6	1	34	96.36
Send Secondary ...	244	218	5	—	8	48	90.99
Shackleton C. of E. ...	83	78	6	4	2	17	93.97
Shalford C.P. Infants ...	84	78	5	5	—	24	92.86
Shalford C.P. Mixed ...	259	248	11	4	44	44	95.75
Shere C. of E. ...	186	178	8	2	1	14	95.70
Tillingbourne Secondary ...	242	224	18	2	4	24	92.56
Tongham C. of E. ...	193	176	17	6	6	37	91.19
Wood Street C.P. ...	145	134	11	2	1	19	92.41
Gosden House Special School ...	118	88	30	24	7	18	74.58
Totals	5,445	4,866	579	159	106	781	89.37

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE

	Immunised 1/1/55 to 31/12/55	Immunised prior to 1/1/55	Estimated Population under 5 years	Percentage Immunised
1955	395	1,506	4,003 (Estimate 1955)	47.49
1954	520	1,330	3,968 (Estimate 1954)	46.62

CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 5-15 YEARS

(Treatment carried out by Public Health Department.)

	Immunised 1/1/55 to 31/12/55	Re- Immunised 1/1/55 to 31/12/55	Immunised prior to 1/1/55 and still at School	Estimated Population 5-15 years	Per- cent- age Immu- nised
1955	106	781	4,760	5,445 (S.C.C. Schools) 7,300 (Estimate 1955)	89.37 73.67
1954	90	756	4,754	5,356 (S.C.C. Schools) 7,215 (Estimate 1954)	90.44 73.19

IMMUNISED IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS

(Information obtained from Principals of 12 Private Schools
out of 19 circularised)

No. of Children on Register	No. Immunised	Percentage Immunised
586	555	94.70

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1955.

Table showing number of cases notified and where treated.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1955, AGE INCIDENCE.
 (Other than Tuberculosis.)

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	At all Ages	At Ages—Years						Cases Admitted to Hospital over 60			
		under 1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	over
Measles	610	5	204	372	18	7	3	—	—	1	16
Scarlet Fever	9	—	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping-cough	73	5	44	23	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
Dysentery	16	—	6	5	2	1	1	—	—	—	3
Food Poisoning	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	12	—	4	5	2	2	1	—	—	—	10
Pneumonia	15	1	5	3	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Totals	740	11	263	414	26	11	6	4	—	1	4
											35

INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASE (other than Tuberculosis), 1955.
PARISH BY PARISH.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	Parish	Worpley												Worplesdon															
		Ripley	St. Martha	Seale	Shackford	Shee	Warborough	Wisley	Worplesdon	Total	Ripley	St. Martha	Seale	Shackford	Shee	Warborough	Wisley	Worplesdon	Total	Ripley	St. Martha	Seale	Shackford	Shee	Warborough	Wisley	Worplesdon	Total	
Scarlet Fever	...	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	47	74	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	7	25	275	1	5	1	21	51	76	1	4	6	3	10	83	16	35	44	36	4	—	36	740	—	—	—	—	—	

SCHOOL ABSENTEES, 1955

CANCER.

There were 71 deaths from malignant disease during 1955, 40 male and 31 female. The age incidence of these persons is shown in the table below:

DEATHS FROM CANCER

SITE	10-20		30-40		40-50		50-60		60-70		70-80		Over 80		Totals		Grand Totals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	1955	1954
Alimentary Canal	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	1	3	1	-	-	7	2	9	16
Breast	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	10	10	7
Lung	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	6	1	2	-	-	-	10	3	13	14
Liver	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	2	3
Tongue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Other	-	-	1	-	1	2	3	7	5	9	3	2	3	20	16	36	32	
1955	-	-	1	1	4	5	6	17	11	15	6	2	3	40	31	71	-	
1954	1	-	1	4	2	3	7	5	10	8	14	12	4	2	39	34	-	73

The table below shows the number of deaths from cancer of the lung during the last 11 years.

Year.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1945	...	6	9
1946	...	3	6
1947	...	12	16
1948	...	11	15
1949	...	8	11
*1950	...	13	15
1951	...	9	12
1952	...	11	11
1953	...	10	10
1954	...	13	14
1955	...	10	13

*Prior to 1950 the Registrar General's short list of causes of death did not record deaths from lung cancer separately—the information was obtained from our own records.

The following table shows the total deaths from cancer during the last sixteen years.

DEATHS FROM CANCER DURING THE LAST 16 YEARS

Year	Male	Female	Total	Death-Rate
1940	19	41	60	1.58
1941	30	42	72	1.75
1942	29	41	70	1.79
1943	38	55	93	2.47
1944	42	33	75	1.98
1945	41	34	75	2.35
1946	26	41	67	1.77
1947	43	33	76	1.96
1948	35	37	72	1.77
1949	37	46	83	1.90
1950	37	30	67	1.58
1951	36	40	76	1.64
1952	41	31	72	1.54
1953	40	34	74	1.55
1954	39	34	73	1.55
1955	40	31	71	1.50

TUBERCULOSIS.

The picture regarding tuberculosis has altered very much from that of a few years ago. New forms of chemotherapy and surgery have noticeably altered treatment, which is now active and specific, and periods of treatment in chest hospitals are now relatively short compared with those of some years ago. This has resulted in less pressure on the beds, so much so that waiting lists for admission do not now exist in this part of the county.

The new methods of treatment mean that more cases can be treated satisfactorily at home, and this in itself underlines an even greater need to ensure that the home conditions are satisfactory, and to prevent the spread of infection. Good housing and nourishment, therefore, assume even greater importance, and cannot be replaced by doctors or surgery. Here, the Tuberculosis Care Committee can be of assistance.

The number of deaths from tuberculosis remains low. This is in great part due to the number of very early cases which are now discovered by mass radiography and other modern aids to diagnosis. Cases are being discovered at a very much earlier stage than before, and consequently the prospects of complete recovery are much greater.

The urgent problem now is to eradicate the spread of the disease by direct infection, by better housing and economic conditions. The fall in demand by tuberculosis cases for beds in chest hospitals makes it possible for these hospitals now to consider accepting other kinds of chest diseases such as pneumonia and "chronic" chest conditions such as asthma and bronchiectasis.

B.C.G. Vaccination.—Under the County Council scheme for B.C.G. Vaccination, treatment is offered to every child between the ages of 13 and 14 years. It is operated through the County School Medical Service.

The following table shows the number and types of cases on the Register at December 31st for the last 12 years:

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total No. on Register at 31st December
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
1944	101	70	37	60	268
1945	103	74	33	59	269
1946	113	81	41	57	292
1947	117	84	40	50	291
1948	118	83	43	52	296
1949	129	83	45	58	315
1950	131	90	50	53	324
1951	140	96	45	58	339
1952	144	102	48	65	359
1953	144	101	50	62	357
1954	148	106	49	60	363
1955	157	109	44	61	371

During 1955 there were 26 new cases (Primary). They were distributed in the following areas:

Ash and Ash Vale	...	5	Ockham	...	...	...	I
Artington	...	...	I	Shackleford	...	...	I
Effingham	...	...	I	Shalford	...	...	3
Gomshall	...	...	3	Tongham	...	...	2
Normandy	...	...	I	Pirbright	...	...	I
Peaslake	...	...	I	Albury	...	...	3
East Horsley	...	...	I	Worplesdon	...	...	2

The table on page 43 shows the new cases and deaths in age periods; pulmonary and non-pulmonary figures are given separately.

The following table shows the notifications and deaths in the District, with the corresponding rates per 1,000 of the population during the past 10 years:

Year	New Cases Notified	Notification Rate	Deaths	Death-Rate per 1,000 of the Population
1946	46	1.22	9	0.24
1947	28	0.72	10	0.26
1948	26	0.63	10	0.24
1949	43	1.03	11	0.26
1950	32	0.74	7	0.16
1951	36	0.79	7	0.15
1952	40	0.84	7	0.15
1953	27	0.56	7	0.15
1954	26	0.55	5	0.11
1955	26	0.55	7	0.14

TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE.

The Care Committee held only two meetings during the year, the Chairman, in consultation with the Hon. Secretary, having exercised delegates' powers to deal with day-to-day cases submitted by the Care Almoner, the number of cases considered being 24.

Assistance was given in the following forms (some patients receiving help under more than one heading):

Extra milk	...	...	...	5
Invalid Foods	...	...	...	4
Pocket Money	...	...	...	3
Rail and Bus Fares	...	...	...	7
Clothing and Footwear	...	...	...	4
Other help	...	...	...	4

The total expenditure involved by these grants was £76 13s. 7d. During the year the Committee's financial position necessitated application being made to the Standing Conference of Surrey Tuberculosis Care Committees for assistance, when a grant of £50 was made.

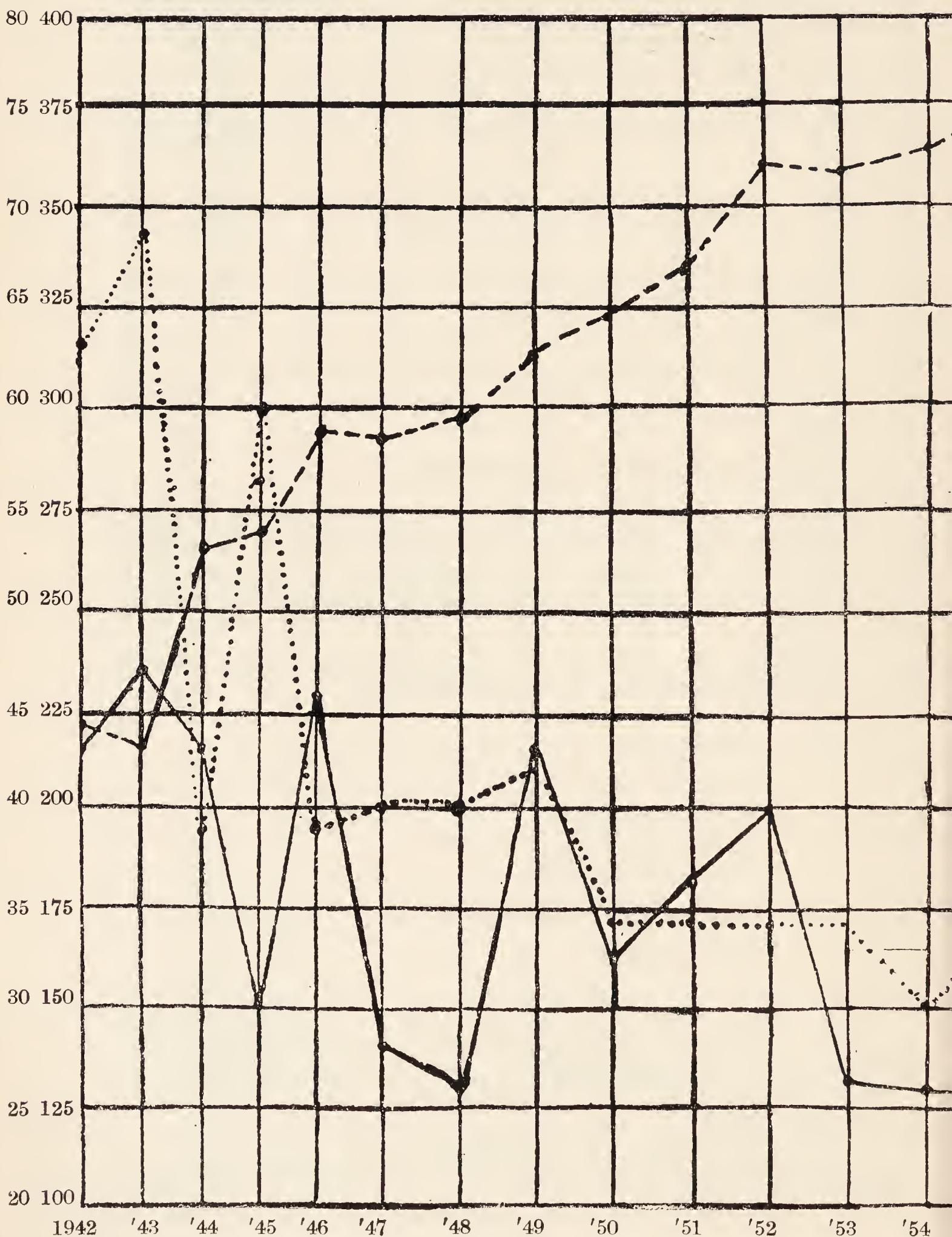
The Care Committee had a balance of £91 9s. 4d. in hand at March 31st, 1956.

GRAPH SHOWING THE ANNUAL NOTIFICATIONS
AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Notifications of Tuberculosis (20 to 80) ...

Deaths from Tuberculosis (0 to 30) ...

Numbers on Register of notified cases (100 to
400)



NOTIFICATIONS AND MORTALITY OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1955.

Age Periods	New Cases *				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	13	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	8	4	—	—	2	1	—	—
45—55	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
55—65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	30	19	—	—	7	3	4	—
Registrar General's Figures	...	...	...	...	3	2	—	—

* 26 of the cases were primary notifications, and 1 a posthumous notification and 29 were cases transferred into the district from elsewhere.

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND PUBLIC CLEANSING
OFFICER**

for the year 1955

on the work of the Sanitary Inspectors and the Public Cleansing Services.

INSPECTIONS.

The total number of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year was 6,664 in accordance with the following table:

Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	138
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,468
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Knackers' Yards	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Factories—Mechanical	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Factories—Non-mechanical	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Public Halls, Places of Entertainment, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Insect Pests	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	774
Ponds, Pools, Ditches and Watercourses	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Butchers and Cooked Meat Shops	..	...	...	...	...	...	44
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Hotels and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Mobile Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Food Stalls and Street Vendors	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Emergency Slaughtering Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Registered Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Dairies and Milk Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	89
Ice-cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	21
Inspection of Foodstuffs	...	...	...	...	...	34
Miscellaneous Food Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	53
Bakeries	...	...	...	...	...	17
Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	87
Milk Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	168
Ice-cream Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	113
Miscellaneous Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	137
Housing—Public Health Act Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	50
Housing—Public Health Act Reinspections	...	...	...	...	...	259
Housing Acts Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	510
Housing Acts Reinspections	...	...	...	...	...	554
Overcrowding Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	12
Overcrowding Reinspections	...	...	...	...	...	—
Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	664
Filthy or Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	16
Certificates of Disrepair Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous Housing Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	327
S.C.C. Act, 1931—Posting of Notices	...	...	...	...	...	27
Improvement Grants Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	180
Improvement Grants Reinspections	...	...	...	...	...	151
Rural Housing Survey Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	25
Infectious Disease Enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	35
Infectious Disease Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	11
Disinfections	...	...	...	...	...	1
					Total	6,664

NOTICES.

Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	16
Preliminary Notices served:								
Domestic Premises	...	...	...	...	...	180
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	9
Dairy Premises	...	...	...	...	...	1
Piggeries, Poultry Premises	...	...	...	...	...	4
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	—
Cafes, Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	22
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	11
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	12
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	2
Slaughterhouses, Knackers' Premises	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	4
					Total	264

Statutory Notices complied with ...	...	...	...	16
Preliminary Notices complied with	...	...	...	237
				<hr/>
	Total ...	...	...	253
				<hr/>

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODSTUFFS.

(a) MILK SUPPLIES.

(i) Number of registered dairy premises	...	...	...	18
Number of registered distributors	...	...	...	31
Number of registered distributors (premises in other areas)	...	...	...	17
(ii) Licences for the sale of milk under special designations were granted as follows:				

Dealers' Licences:

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	19
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	21
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	16
						<hr/>
	Total ...	...	...	...	...	56
						<hr/>

Supplementary Licences:

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	18
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	17
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	9
						<hr/>
	Total ...	...	...	...	...	44
						<hr/>

(iii) Milk Pasteurisation.

Throughout the year sampling of milk, in accordance with the provisions of The Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-53, was continued as a routine measure from both roundsmen and one licensed pasteurising plant which operates in the area.

The plant is of the batch holder type and has been the subject of frequent routine inspection, its efficiency being checked by the use of N.P.L. check thermometers.

(iv) Milk Sampling.

Of the 202 samples of milk taken during the year, 48 were of raw milk taken for biological examination from licensed pasteurising establishments prior to pasteurisation.

142 samples of pasteurised milk were taken and submitted to the phosphatase test: in six cases samples failed to satisfy the Analyst. Subsequent samples, however, were shown to be satisfactory.

MILK SAMPLING 1955—SUMMARY OF RESULTS.

Type of Milk	Total Samples Taken	Methylene Blue Test			Biological Examination			Phosphatase Test			Turbidity Test		
		Satis.	Failed	Test not done-temp. over 65°	Satis.	Failed	Satis.	Failed	Satis.	Failed	Satis.	Failed	
Tuberculin Tested	37	7	1	—	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Accredited	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	57	53	—	4	—	—	53	4	—	—	—	—	
Pasteurised	85	81	—	4	—	—	83	2	—	—	—	—	
Non-Designated	12	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Sterilised	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	
Totals	202	141	1	8	41	—	136	6	11	—	11	—	

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODSTUFFS.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number inspected	1	—	2	—	4
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcases condemned	1	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	100%	—	—	—	75%
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—

The following quantities of foodstuffs were inspected and certified as unfit for human consumption:

	cwts.	qrs.	stns.	lbs.	oz.
Fresh beef I 2 I II 6					
Tinned meats (including corned beef) 2 0 0 I 8					
Cooked meats 0 0 I 0 0					
Whalemeat 0 0 I I3 0					
Milk powder I 0 I 8 0					
Tinned milk 0 0 0 2 I2					
Tinned fruit 0 I 0 2 0					
Tinned jams 0 0 0 I 8					
 Totals 5 2 0 I2 2					

WATER SUPPLIES.

Throughout the year a total of 111 bacteriological and 24 chemical samples of water were taken from the following supplies serving the district:

- Guildford, Godalming and District Water Board.
- Mid-Wessex Water Company.
- Wey Valley Water Company.
- Woking Water Company.
- East Surrey Water Company.
- Albury Estate Private Supply.
- Wanborough and City Estates Private Supply.
- Eastbury Manor Private Supply.
- Loseley Estate Private Supply.

The public supplies continued to maintain a satisfactory standard throughout the year. The results of samples taken from the private supplies fluctuated to a greater extent, but any difficulties which were encountered were satisfactorily resolved.

Four samples of water were taken from private storage tanks which were supplied by roof water and in each case the supply was shown to be unsatisfactory. It was not possible to overcome the problem by the provision of a mains supply as such was not available.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING GROUNDS.

(a) Public Health Act, 1936—Section 269.

Licences granted to erect or station and use movable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Licences granted to use land as a site for movable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

(b) Surrey County Council Act, 1931.

The Quadrant, Ash Vale, continued to be used during the year by itinerant van dwellers, and a number of prosecutions for contravention of the Order were taken. These, however, do not seem to provide a complete deterrent to the occupation of the land and the establishment of undesirable encampments.

The open nature of this site, which is unfenced, is conducive to this type of encampment, and it does seem that until steps are taken to redevelop the area its spasmodic use in this way will continue indefinitely.

On thirteen occasions proceedings were taken resulting in the imposition of fines, and it is of interest to note that ten of these cases related to new offenders.

There have been two families rehoused during the year.

No movable dwellings were sited on The Bogs, Ash Vale, The Home Farm Estate, or Effingham Common, in contravention of the respective Orders, during the year.

The Bogs and The Quadrant—1955.

The Quadrant.

No. of prosecutions taken ...	...	...	...	...	13
No. of new offenders ...	...	...	...	...	10
No. of families rehoused ...	...	...	...	...	2
Maximum number of vans on site at any one time					8

The Bogs.

No. of prosecutions taken ...	...	...	...	Nil
No. of new offenders ...	...	...	...	Nil
No. of families rehoused ...	...	...	...	Nil

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

	Number on Register	Number of		
		In- spec-tions	Written Notices	Cases Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	2	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) above in which Section 7 is enforced by above Local Authority	139	73	6	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority* (excluding out-workers' premises)	1	—	—	—
Totals	143	75	7	—

* Electrical stations (Sections 103(1)), Institutions (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

SES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of Cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
nt of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—	
rcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—	
asonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—	
equate Ventilation (S.4)...	1	—	—	—	—	
fective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—	
itary Conveniences (S.7)						
a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—	
b) Unsuitable or defective	5	3	—	2	—	
c) Not separate for sexes...	—	—	—	—	—	
er offences against the Act not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals	7	4	—	2	—	

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND KNACKERS' YARDS.

Following confirmation from the Minister of Food of the Council's decision taken in 1954 to close all slaughterhouses in their area, the one remaining slaughterhouse was closed and ceased to operate as from March 21st, 1955.

Licensing:

Licences were granted for the use of premises in the following parishes as slaughterhouses to March 21st, 1955.

East Horsley I

Licences were granted for the use of premises in the following parishes as knackers' yards for the year 1955:

Artington I

Ash 2

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949— RODENT CONTROL.

There were 312 complaints of rat or mouse infestation arising during the year showing the continuance of the steady yearly in-

crease which reflects the extent to which the general public continue to take advantage of the free service provided by the Council to domestic premises.

The survey of the area to ascertain the presence of any degree of infestation has continued and during the year 636 premises were covered, of which 73 were agricultural. 492 premises required treatment, and in the case of domestic dwellings this was carried out as a free service. The cost of any treatment of commercial premises is, however, fully recovered.

The close co-operation with the Pest Control Department of the Surrey County Agricultural Executive Committee continued.

The routine control of the Council's refuse tips and other premises was exercised throughout the year, including a 10 per cent test baiting of the sewers in which no "takes" were recorded.

INSECT PEST CONTROL.

22 complaints were received which entailed a total of 82 visits resulting in 59 cases treated.

CLEANSING SERVICES.

(a) House Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Collection of house refuse is made fortnightly throughout all Parishes under the terms of the Council's undertaking: eight side-loading vehicles and one rear-loading vehicle are used for the work, disposal of refuse being by controlled tipping at Stonebridge, Bramley, Parish land at Ash Vale and at a new site in East Clandon involving the filling in of a small chalk pit.

No major difficulties were experienced with the Service, although a considerable increase in the volume of refuse put out for clearance was noted.

(b) Cleansing of Pail Closets.

Twice weekly collection of night soil continues to be carried out in parts of the Parishes of St. Martha, Albury and Shalford and the Parishes of Ash and Tongham area of Seale from 930 premises: a further 143 premises are cleared once weekly in the Ash area.

All night soil is disposed of by tipping to main sewers.

The Night Soil Collection Service was extended during the year by the provision of a new vehicle and labour to clear all premises in the Parishes of Pirbright, Worplesdon, Normandy, East and West Clandon, Seale, Shackleford, Compton, Puttenham and Wanborough, involving 562 premises, on a twice-weekly basis.

The Council gave consideration to the desirability of extending this Service to cover the whole of the District involving the remaining Parishes of East and West Horsley, Effingham, Ockham, Ripley, Wisley, Send and Shere and those premises not now collected in the Parishes of St. Martha, Shalford and Albury, and a scheme was prepared with a view to introducing an additional vehicle in the next financial year.

(c) **Cleansing of Cesspools.**

The emptying of cesspools continued to be carried out in accordance with the Council's undertaking, free of charge, not more often than once in every period of three months on a request being made for the execution of the work. The Service is carried out by the operation of ten vacuum tank vehicles.

A total of 8,979 requests for the Service was received, 9,003 cesspools were emptied, involving the removal and disposal of 18,415 loads of sewage. Of the total volume of sewage, 9,728 loads were shot to public sewers either within the area of the Council's district or of neighbouring Local Authorities, the remainder of the sewage being deposited on farm land or on rented land at Elm Hill, Normandy, where it is lagooned and disposed of by soaking and evaporation.

There is a steady demand for the Service despite connection of a number of properties to the main sewers, and it would seem that it will be some years before the full benefit of sewers is felt by this Service; new development and increasing water consumption would appear to aggravate the problem.

P. MEDDOWS TAYLOR,

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Public Cleansing Officer.

